

GORSLINE MAY BARE HALL MURDER

Vestryman Knows Inside of Slaying, Prosecutor Says

(Continued from Page 2)

ator Simpson to put Mrs. Gibson on the stand today and draw from her the story upon which he bases his hope to send the three defendants to the electric chair.

Reporters today Simpson said:

"Mrs. Gibson will testify as soon as her physician permits. She is a very sick woman, but she positively will take the stand in this trial."

If Dr. Lawton's fears that Mrs. Gibson may develop pneumonia are realized, however, it is considered quite likely that the trial would have to be delayed indefinitely in order to get her testimony on the record.

Crowds at Courthouse

Despite a sharp drop in the temperature, which brought to Somerville the coldest weather of the fall, the second "world series" line of persons seeking admission to the tiny courtroom formed early.

As on yesterday, the majority were women, from giggling flappers in their teens to those over 60.

They shivered in the biting wind that swept over the open area about the white marble courthouse, the more fortunate warming themselves with coffee from thermos bottles.

As early as 7 o'clock "Dan the Candy Man," a familiar figure in Somerville for many years, appeared with his basket of sandwiches to find ready customers.

Gorsline's Companion There

The jury arrived at the courthouse at 9.26 in the custody of Sheriff Sanford W. Tunison. They had spent the night in a neighboring house which the county has leased for them.

The first witness to arrive was Catherine Rastall, Ralph Gorsline's companion in De Russey's Lane on the murder night.

The young girl, of a respectable New Brunswick family, who has admitted indiscretion with the married church vestryman, will corroborate the "pig woman's" story as to the time of the murders and the order of the shots—first one, then a pause, then three more in rapid succession.

Heard Voices and Screams

With Gorsline, who closely followed his sweetheart of other days into the court room, Miss Rastall also has admitted hearing "mumbled voices and a woman's screams."

Both deny they recognized anybody in the murder group, although the special prosecutor insists he has an affidavit to the effect that Gorsline placed Henry Stevens at the crabapple tree.

Wait for Simpson

At yesterday, court convened before the arrival of Senator Simpson. The jury had been polled and the crowd was waiting impatiently when the jaunty little prosecutor walked in.

Robert H. McCarter of defense counsel asked the court that the calling card, said to bear the fingerprints of Willie Stevens, be marked for identification instead of as evidence.

The state had introduced the card as evidence, but agreed to the defense's demand for the time being.

William J. Berryman, the last witness yesterday, resumed his testimony concerning designs he had made of the interior of Dr. Hall's church and study.

Hall's Successor Called

Simpson took only a few minutes with the map-maker, and then gave the crowds its first major thrill of the day when he called the Rev. J. Mervin Pettit, the slain clergyman's successor.

Dr. Pettit told of his acquaint-

Humble Sexton Pathetic Figure



WAN AND WEARY, James Mills, whose pretty wife met her death under the crabapple tree, together with her rector lover, presented a pathetic sight as he entered court in company with his wife's sister. Jimmie was sexton of the Hall church, where his wife was a choir singer.

ance with Gorsline. He said the "love spy" was a vestryman when he became rector January 1, 1923. The clergyman said that Gorsline had failed of re-election to the vestry in April, 1923, but was reinstated at a subsequent election.

The special prosecutor then switched to the diagram of the church's interior. After Dr. Pettit had said it was accurate, Senator Simpson offered it in evidence.

Simpson showed the minister a picture of the church study—that rendezvous of Dr. Hall and Mrs. Mills when first they knew the love which resulted in their deaths.

Senator Case objected to the introduction of the photograph taken a short time ago, as incompetent to furnish a picture of the study four years ago. Case was overruled.

Simpson had Pettit admit that the study today was but little changed from the time Dr. Hall occupied it. The book in which the choir singer left love notes for her lover was still there, the minister said.

Woman Tells of Shots

Mrs. Anna L. Hoag was the next on the stand. The woman lived on De Russey's Lane at the time of the murders, about 400 feet from the Parker home.

A wizened little woman, she told of hearing shots "about 10 o'clock" on the murder night. They were about 200 feet away, she judged.

After repeated objections by the defense, Mrs. Hoag told of Henry Stevens visiting her home a year after the murders and entering into

Does Stolen Love Endure?

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SATURDAY'S GRAPHIC
WEEK-END MAGAZINE
SECTION

COP'S WIDOW SUES

Mrs. Margaret Curry, 815 Crescent St., Astoria, widow of Motorcycle Patrolman Lloyd Curry, brought suit in the Queens Su-

preme Court against Raven Hall, Inc., of Coney Island, and Salvatore Avitabile for \$100,000, claiming Curry was killed on the grounds of the Raven Hall company.

Solving a Pearl Problem

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